
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 23, 1849.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

AN ACT

To regulate the mileage of members and delegates in Congress, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-*
2 *sentatives of the United States of America in Congress*
3 *assembled,* That the secretary of the Senate and the clerk
4 of the House shall, at the commencement of each session
5 of Congress, obtain from each member and delegate the
6 name of the post office nearest his residence, and shall,
7 with the aid of the presiding officers, ascertain and fix the
8 distance to the said post office from the seat of the general
9 government, computed according to the shortest continu-
10 ous mail route ; adding to, or subtracting from, that dis-
11 tance, as the case may be, the distance from the said post
12 office to the residence of the member or delegate ; upon
13 which statement the mileage of each member and dele-
14 gate shall be computed and settled: *Provided,* That they

15 shall not alter the maximum of mileage now allowed to
 16 the delegate from the Territory of Oregon.

1 *SEC. 2. And be it further enacted,* That hereafter
 2 no member or delegate shall be allowed mileage for at-
 3 tending any extra session of Congress, or of either House
 4 thereof, unless he shall have actually travelled the
 5 distance charged, it being the purpose of this section to
 6 prohibit compensation for constructive journeys.

1 *SEC. 3. And be it further enacted,* That on the final
 2 settlement of the account of each member and delegate, he
 3 shall subjoin at the close of his account a certificate that he
 4 has deducted from it all and each of the entire days on
 5 which he may have been absent from his seat in the House
 6 of which he is a member, and while it was in session ; ex-
 7 cepting, however, when his absence may have been occa-
 8 sioned by sickness, or by the order of the House on public
 9 business, or may have been with the leave of the House ;
 10 in which latter case he shall be allowed only four dollars
 11 per day, during such absence.

1 *SEC. 4. And be it further enacted,* That hereafter
 2 it shall not be lawful for any officer of either House of
 3 Congress, or other person by virtue of any order, resolu-
 4 tion, or other proceeding of either of said Houses, to pur-
 5 chase or contract or agree for the purchase of any books
 6 for distribution among the members thereof, until an ap-

7 appropriation shall have been regularly made for that spe-
8 cific purpose.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That no part of
2 the appropriation which may be made for the contingent
3 expenses of either House of Congress shall be applied to
4 any other than the ordinary expenditures of the Senate
5 and House, respectively ; nor shall it be lawful to expend
6 any part of said appropriation, by virtue of any order,
7 resolution, or other proceeding of either House, as extra
8 compensation or allowance to any secretary, clerk, mes-
9 senger, or attendant of the said two Houses, or either of
10 them.

1 SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That hereafter
2 the mileage which may be allowed to officers or other
3 persons in the military, naval, or civil service, shall be
4 computed and settled according to the shortest mail route.

Passed the House of Representatives : *Feb. 21, 1849.*

Attest :

THO. J. CAMPBELL, *Clerk.*